Ventura's ''Grand Single'' in the bottom of the 15th inning of Game 5 to win. Together, these players captivated us for a month of remarkable baseball. No game was out of reach and we watched in awed appreciation. Unfortunately, even these Miracle Mets reached the end of the road, a mere two wins shy of the World Series. But there is great pride in New York today for these Mets have soared.

We are blessed with another baseball team in New York. The Yankees are the greatest franchise in the history of sports and this season they have continued to meet their own lofty standards. Their quiet confidence and unassailable professionalism have powered them to a rematch with their 1996 World Series opponents, the Atlanta Braves. This matchup will determine who is the best team of the '90's and there is little doubt that the Yankees will bring their best to this pursuit.

The character of the Yankee team is unassailable. Joe Torre has fashioned a team in his own typically modest image. When an early season bout with cancer stole Torre from the team the Yanks rallied around their manager and maintained the unity that he created. This toughness of character was displayed throughout the season and into the playoffs. Paul O'Neill's gritty play with a broken rib best exemplifies the type of play the Yankees have given for Torre. With the dominance of ''El Duque'' Orlando Hernandez and Mariano Rivera the Yankees intimidated the Rangers and defeated the Red Sox. And of course the perpetually unflappable Ramiro Mendoza was pivotal in carrying us in times of trouble. With this team effort the Yankees have given Torre their best. It is with great anticipation that we look forward to the Yankees picking up the banner for the honor of New York.

Near the end of the regular season, as the Mets prospects looked bleak, one Atlanta player uncharitably suggested that New York fans shed their loyalty for the Mets and give their allegiance to the Yankees. The Mets very nearly proved this player wrong.

With great charity a united New York responds: Chipper, we'll see you in the Bronx.●

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Acting in my individual capacity as a Senator from Kansas, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1770

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Acting in my individual capacity as a Senator from Kansas, I understand that S. 1770, which was introduced by Senator LOTT and others, is at the desk. I ask for its first reading.

The clerk will read the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1770) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the research and development credit and to extend certain other expiring provisions for 30 months, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I now ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

Objection is heard.

IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT AMENDMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Acting in my capacity as an individual Senator from Kansas, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 168, H.R. 441.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 441) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to the requirements of the admission of nonimmigrant nurses who will practice in health professional shortage areas.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 2326

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Senators LOTT and DASCHLE have an amendment at the desk.

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), for Mr. LOTT and Mr. DASCHLE, proposes an amendment numbered 2326.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill add the following:

SEC. ___. NATIONAL INTEREST WAIVERS OF JOB OFFER REQUIREMENTS FOR ALIENS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE PROFESSIONS HOLDING ADVANCED DEGREES OR ALIENS OF EXCEPTIONAL ABILITY.

Section 203(b)(2)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153(b)(2)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

''(B) WAIVER OF JOB OFFER.—

''(i) NATIONAL INTEREST WAIVER.—Subject to clause (ii), the Attorney General may, when the Attorney General deems it to be in the national interest, waive the requirements of subparagraph (A) that an alien's services in the sciences, arts, professions, or business be sought by an employer in the United States.

''(ii) PHYSICIANS WORKING IN SHORTAGE AREAS OR VETERANS FACILITIES.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall grant a national interest waiver pursuant to clause (i) on behalf of any alien physician with respect to whom a petition for preference classification has been filed under subparagraph (A) if—

''(aa) the alien physician agrees to work full time as a physician in an area or areas designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services as having a shortage of health care professionals or at a health care facility under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and

''(bb) a Federal agency or a department of public health in any State has previously determined that the alien physician's work in such an area or at such facility was in the public interest.

''(II) PROHIBITION.—No permanent resident visa may be issued to an alien physician described in subclause (I) by the Secretary of State under section 204(b), and the Attorney General may not adjust the status of such an alien physician from that of a nonimmigrant alien to that of a permanent resident alien under section 245, until such time as the alien has worked full time as a physician for an aggregate of five years (not including the time served in the status of an alien described in section 101(a)(15)(J)), in an area or areas designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services as having a shortage of health care professionals or at a health care facility under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

''(III) STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subparagraph may be construed to prevent the filing of a petition with the Attorney General for classification under section 204(a), or the filing of an application for adjustment of status under section 245, by an alien physician described in subclause (I) prior to the date by which such alien physician has completed the service described in subclause (II).

''(IV) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The requirements of this subsection do not affect waivers on behalf of alien physicians approved under section 203(b)(2)(B) before the enactment date of this subsection. In the case of a physician for whom an application for a waiver was filed under Section 203(b)(2)(B) prior to November 1, 1998, the Attorney General shall grant a national interest waiver pursuant to Section 203(b)(2)(B) except that the alien is required to have worked full time as a physician for an aggregate of three years (not including time served in the status of an alien described in section 101(a)(15)(J)) before a visa can be issued to the alien under Section 204(b) or the status of the alien is adjusted to permanent resident under Section 245.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be agreed to.

The amendment (No. 2326) was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2327

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is a second amendment at the desk.

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), for Mr. HATCH, proposes an amendment numbered 2327.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill insert the following:

SEC. . FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING FIRMS.

Section 206(a) of the Immigration Act of 1990 (8 U.S.C. 1101 note) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) CLARIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING AND MANAGEMENT CONSULTING FIRMS.—In applying sections 101(a)(15)(L) and 203(b)(1)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and for no other purpose, in the case of a partnership that is organized in the United States to provide accounting or management consulting services and that markets its accounting or management consulting services under an internationally recognized name under an agreement with a worldwide coordinating organization that is collectively owned and controlled by the member accounting and

management consulting firms or by the elected members (partners, shareholders, members, employees) thereof, an entity that is organized outside the United States to provide accounting or management consulting services shall be considered to be an affiliate of the United States accounting or management consulting partnership if it markets its accounting or management consulting services under the same internationally recognized name directly or indirectly under an agreement with the same worldwide coordinating organization of which the United States partnership is also a member. Those partnerships organized within the United States and entities organized outside the United States which are considered affiliates under this subsection shall continue to be considered affiliates to the extent such firms enter into a plan of association with a successor worldwide coordinating organization, which need not be collectively owned and controlled.''.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, the amendment I am offering is a minor, technical clarification to the L visa program. The L visa is a temporary, nonimmigrant visa allowing a U.S. company which is part of an international business to make intra-company transfers from overseas of foreign executives, managers, and employees with specialized knowledge to America. In 1990, Congress clarified that international accounting firms and their related management consulting practices would be able to use the L visas. This specific provision in the Immigration Act of 1990 was thought necessary by Congress because, for legal and historical reasons, international accounting firms and their management consulting businesses are not organized the same way most international corporations are organized. The laws of various foreign countries relating to the accounting profession have caused the international accounting and associated management consulting businesses to be generally organized as partnerships held together by contracts with a worldwide coordinating organization. The INS regulations reflect congressional intent to be sure that international accounting firms and their associated management consulting businesses so organized would not be at a disadvantage under the L visa program. 8 CFR Section 214.2(l)(1)(ii)(L)(3).

My amendment will make sure that any international management consulting firm that separates from an international accounting firm, yet continues to maintain the qualifying worldwide organizational structure, may continue to use the L visa even if it is no longer connected to an accounting firm. Thus, no new category of beneficiaries may use the L visa. On the other hand, no business currently able to use the L visa will lose the right to do so under this amendment, including management consulting firms which have a relationship with an international accounting firm or which are organized in a more typical international corporate structure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I ask unanimous consent that the amendments be agreed to, the bill be read a third time and passed, as amended, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 441), as amended, was passed.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 1771

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Acting in my individual capacity as a Senator from Kansas, I understand that S. 1771, which was introduced by Senator ASHCROFT and others, is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1771) to provide stability in the United States agriculture sector and to promote adequate availability of food and medicine for humanitarian assistance abroad by requiring congressional approval before the imposition of any unilateral agricultural or medical sanction against a foreign country or foreign entity.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I now ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

Objection is heard.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Acting in my capacity as a Senator from Kansas, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on the Executive Calendar: Executive Calendar Nos. 137 and 272.

I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the nominations be printed in the RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

David B. Sandalow, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs.

THE JUDICIARY

Richard K. Eaton, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade.

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I must say how delighted I am that the Senate has just confirmed Richard K. Eaton to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade. I have known Dick for nearly a quarter-century: he volunteered to work on my first campaign for the United States Senate in 1976. I was so impressed with his abilities, I asked him to run my Oneonta office. Later, he ran my New York City office. Then he moved to Washington to serve as my legislative director and—on two separate occasions—as my chief of staff.

Dick Eaton lives in Georgetown with his wife Susan Henshaw Jones and their two delightful daughters, Alice and Liza. He is a partner in the New York law firm of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, LLP. He was also a partner in Mudge Rose Guthrie Alexander & Ferdon. His practice has been varied, but includes work on some of the largest offerings of municipal securities in American history and appearances on behalf of clients in civil lawsuits in both State and Federal Courts.

I suppose I have always thought of Dick as a judge. Before he joined my staff he was—at the tender age of 26—the Village Justice of Cooperstown, New York. I know I have always benefitted from his wise counsel with regard to matters large and small, professional and personal. I can tell you that he has the requisite qualities to make a fine judge: a respect for all points of view, extraordinarily good sense, an evenness of temperament, patience, intellectual agility, and absolute integrity.

Mr. President, Richard Eaton's greatest contribution to the administration of Justice may be that, since 1977, he has been the anchor of my committee that screens candidates for recommendation for Federal District Court and United States Attorney nominations. Dick now serves as chairman of the committee which—in our view at least—serves as a model for other States. Ours was the first such committee to proceed on a non-partisan basis. New York University Law School Professor Stephen Gillers put it this way:

In most places, lawyers who count, who want to be judges, become politically active. In New York, lawyers who want to be Federal trial judges complete a twelve-page questionnaire containing thirty-seven questions. An eleven-member panel screens applicants and recommends nominees. . . . Who have been Moynihan's nominees? . . . They are a first-rate group, as might be expected from the process that produced them.

No one deserves more credit for the committee's work than Dick. I know that a great number of Federal judges in New York can attest to the value of his counsel, so indispensable during the nomination and confirmation process, which often can be quite torturous. I daresay it is only fitting that Dick should himself join the Federal bench.

International trade litigation is a subject requiring intelligence and energy. The issues facing the Court of International Trade are hugely complex. As Congress prescribed in the Customs Court Act of 1980, the Court of International Trade has broadened its